

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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Open Cast Mining

1. New open cast mining in the area north of Stolzenberg, a village approximately two miles east of Ronneburg, is proceeding slowly. The area to be worked is about 40 acres; the ore is expected to be at a depth of 20 meters.
2. An excavator continues the small amount of clearing still to be done at Gauern; 320 workers in four gangs are employed in two shifts to work the ore. Further work is soon to be started in a north and northeastern direction.

Underground Mining

3. The new pit at Paitsdorf is now over 180 meters deep; the first cut has yet to be made. Technical installations are being erected by Object 11 near the pit.
4. At Schmirschau, work continues at the 30, 60 and 90 meter levels. The 120 meter level is being prepared for mining, and an extension at this level in the direction of Paitsdorf has been started. Funds have been granted for extensions of the workings, and the necessary labor is being sought. The 60 meter level is to be extended first in the direction of Ronneburg, and later a new entrance to the southern edge of the workings from Ronneburg will be built.
5. Grades of ore known locally as Sorte II and Sorte III are being mined from the 30, 60 and 90 meter levels at Lichtenberg. Since the richest Sorte II ore is being mined, it is reported that a new shaft, down to the 90 meter level, is to be begun on the road to Schmirschau, about 2 km. from the central shaft.

Transport of Ore

6. Ore from Lichtenberg and Schmirschau is loaded into G-cars at Ronneburg. Sorte II ore goes in shuttle service to Freiberg, and Sorte III in shuttle service to Crossen. [redacted] it was reported that an average [redacted]

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET

- 2 -

50X1-HUM

of about 100 cars per day were being loaded, and on 24 November 1954, that the average was about 50 cars per day. On the latter occasion, it was also reported that some cars had been diverted during the last week to the transport of the potato and beet harvest.

7. Ten to twenty G-cars of ore per day are loaded at Gauern and sent in shuttle service to Crossen. [redacted] it was reported that only Sorte III ore was being loaded.

50X1-HUM

8. Gera has been used as a loading station to which ore from Schmirchau and Lichtenberg was sent by tipper. About 10 to 20 cars were being loaded per day. The car situation was so bad at Gera that the loading was discontinued on 21 November 1954.

9. Zwirtzschen garage has 90 vehicles in use at Stolzenberg. Thirty new tipper at Gera are ready for use at Stolzenberg.

Prospecting at Ronneburg

10. Over 25 drilling sites prospected by Object 29 have been noted in an area southeast of Ronneburg near the city boundaries.

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